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Application No.: 09/016,159

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J1 Cont domain, said human erythropoietin receptor polypeptide being capable of binding human erythropoietin, wherein said fusion protein is expressed at high levels, purified by affinity chromatography and cut at the cleavage site producing free human erythropoietin receptor extracellular domain.

A purified antibody having specific binding affinity for human erythropoictin receptor, said antibody produced against a purified fragment of human erythorpoietin receptor extracellular domain, wherein the fragment contains only amino acids corresponding to the human erythropoietin receptor.

- 5. An immunoassay compostion comprising:
 - (a) a solid phase immunoassay reagent; and
 - (b) the protein of claim 3 operably coupled to said reagent.
- 6. An immunoassay compostion comprising:
 - (a) a solid phase immunoassay reagent; and
 - (b) an antibody of claim 4 operably coupled to said reagent.

A purified antibody having specific binding affinity for a purified human erythropoietin receptor extracellular domain polypeptide, [said polypeptide consisting essentially of about amino acid 25 to about amino acid 250 of the full length human erythropoietin receptor protein,] wherein said polypeptide is expressed in E-coli, capable of binding human erythropoietin and does not include any amino acids from non-human DNA.

- 9. An immunoassay compostion comprising:
 - (a) a solid phase immunoassay reagent; and
 - (b) an antibody of claim 8 operably coupled to said reagent.